

Richard Erickson
Has own Airstrip
Loves engines

JOHN WESLEY FARLEY AND NANCY ALICE STONE



John Wesley Farley was born August 29, 1858, at Williamstown, Grant County, Kentucky, son of Forest and Nancy Almira Kidwell Farley. On December 30, 1880, he married Nancy Alice Stone, who was born June 30, 1864, in Williamstown, Kentucky, daughter of James Wesley and Elizabeth Stone. John died January 23, 1940,

935

at Provo. Nancy Alice died at Pleasant Grove on January 23, 1947. Both were buried in Wallsburg Cemetery.

After John and Nancy were married, they moved to Bedford, Trimble County, Kentucky, where they bought a small farm and where their nine children were born.

John was religiously inclined and was always searching for the true Church. He joined many churches—Methodists, Baptists and United Brethren, included—but couldn't find the truth he was searching for. In the year 1899, John heard of some Mormon missionaries who were in the adjoining county. He saddled his horse and rode over the little hills of Kentucky to hear these missionaries. When he heard their message he knew he had found what he wanted and invited them to come and teach the gospel to him and his family. Nancy Alice was well versed in the Bible and was convinced of the truthfulness of the missionaries' message. They were baptized on January 1, 1900.

John's home became the home of the missionaries from then on. He would have gladly protected these missionaries' lives with his own had it been necessary. One night an angry mob placed a bundle of switches at his gate with a note reading, "If you don't get those Mormon missionaries out of here by morning, these branches will bear much fruit." He gathered his corn knives and other weapons and placed them by the door, then, laughing, told the missionaries to go upstairs to bed. He said, "Now just let them come." Apparently it was just a bluff, because no mob appeared and the missionaries continued on in their work.

One missionary they loved very much, John Albert Mecham, who had left his wife and family in Wallsburg while he was on his mission, was staying at the home of John and Nancy when he received the tragic word of the accidental death of his son, Alpheas Mecham. Before leaving for his home in Utah he invited the Farley family to come out to his home in Utah. Later Sidney, John, Forest and Clara May Farley did come to Utah and make their home with the Mecham family.

John and Nancy came out to Utah around 1916 and stayed at the Mechams until they found and purchased a little fruit farm at Mapleton. Later on they sold the farm and

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moved to Greenwood, Indiana. The urge to return to Utah brought them back and they lived in Provo until his death. He lived a long, useful life and was faithful to the end. He was the presiding Elder in Kentucky while there.

Nancy was a very gracious lady and a "mother" to many missionaries who came to their home. Her friends and neighbors gave her much joy.

Their children: Sidney Elmer, Curtis Edward, Lily Ann, John Allen, Forest Lewis, Clara May, Hallie Belle, Lucy Agnes and Bertha Ellen.

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